

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit)
In re Application of:) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MEDICAL DEVICE**
MICHAEL WHOLEY ET AL.) **FOR ASPIRATION OF THROMBOEMBOLIC DEBRIS**
Serial No.) Attorney Docket No. 180431-00015
Filed: March 15, 2000)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

600 Grant Street, 44th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-2788

March 15, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR Sections 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits herewith copies of the prior art documents cited on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A for consideration during prosecution of the subject Application.

This Statement is filed solely for the purpose of complying with the pertinent rules of the Office and is not intended to be a substitute for an independent evaluation by the examiner of the art cited or an independent search by the examiner, and no representation of any nature is made or intended by the filing of this Statement.

In addition to the art cited on Form PTO/SB/08A, Applicant and/or his attorneys may have been exposed to or considered additional art relating to the general class of the subject matter of the invention. However, if in fact such exposure or consideration has occurred, to the best of their recall or judgment, none of such art is prior art which is more relevant than the art cited.

Respectfully submitted,



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+ **Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**